

# Transportation News

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## **IDOT Wins Top Government Award for Outstanding Green Initiatives**

### ***IDOT Award Recipient for the Third Year In a Row***

**SPRINGFIELD** - Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Secretary Milton R. Sees announced today that the agency will be recognized this week for its commitment to reducing fuel usage, recycling and saving money. For the third consecutive year, IDOT has been a recipient of the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Councils "Green Government Award."

"We are happy to do our part to protect the environment and present a greener way of delivering services to Illinois residents," said IDOT Secretary Sees. "It takes a lot of hard work and dedication by IDOT staff to accomplish this and we are honored that our efforts are recognized by such a reputable organization."

IDOT has reduced diesel fuel usage by about 20 percent and gasoline usage by nearly 25 percent by carrying out a number of green practices. These practices include properly inflating tires, regularly replacing fuel and air filters, properly lubricating vehicles, reducing mowing on highway right-of-ways, and carpooling or teleconferencing for meetings whenever possible.

The Department also shares "Green Initiatives" and "Fuel Conservation" brochures with travelers at rest areas, and is converting 6,250 traffic signals from incandescent bulbs to LEDs, which saves energy and maintenance. In addition, IDOT recycles nearly 50,000 aluminum signs annually, saving over 190,000 gallons of water, 427,000 pounds of aluminum, saving an estimated \$600,000.

Awards will be presented by Lt. Governor Pat Quinn at the Sustainable Government Symposium on Friday, Dec. 12 at the Department of Agriculture building on the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

This year marks the third annual Sustainable Government Symposium. The symposium agenda will include the quarterly meeting of the Green Governments Coordinating Council, presentations of the 2008 Green Government Awards, presentations on green initiatives implemented by state agencies and others, and exhibits by green vendors and organizations.

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Green Government Award recipients include:

**Construction & Renovation**

Capital Development Board

**Transportation**

Central Management Services

Division of Vehicles

Illinois Department of Transportation

**Facilities Management**

Central Management Services

Bureau of Property Management

Illinois State Board of Education

**Purchasing**

Central Management Services

Bureau of Strategic Sourcing and Procurement

**Energy Efficient & Conservation**

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

**Office Operations**

Illinois Commerce Commission

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

**Water Quality & Conservation**

Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

**Education & Outreach**

Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

**Waste Reduction & Recycling**

Illinois Department of Revenue

Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission